LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Original) A process for the production of α-interferon comprising the steps:

i) inducing of human leukocytes by means of a virus,

ii) treating the leukocytes with an enhancing agent selected from

a) xanthine, pyrimidinol and pyrimidinone, theophylline, theobromine, enprophylline, hypoxanthine, 8-phenyltheophylline, 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methylpyrimidinol, 2-amino-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol and thymine;

b) an organic solvent selected from the group consisting of non-aromatic ketones, aliphatic or cyclic amides, alkylated aliphatic or cyclic urea derivatives and aliphatic or cyclic sulfoxides; or

a combination of the compounds from a) with an organic solvent from b).

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Claim ~~2~~. (Original) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the leukocytes are monocytes.

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Claim ~~3~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is added at the same time or up to 4 hours after the virus induction.

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Claim ~~4~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

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Claim ~~5~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 6. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 7. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is thymine.

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Claim ~~8~~. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the organic solvent is any of acetone, 2-butanone, 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 4-methyl-2- pentanone, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 2-pyrrolidinone, tetramethylene sulfoxide or ~~and~~ N,N-dimethylacetamide.

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Claim ~~9~~. (Original) A process according to claim ~~8~~, characterized in that the solvent is N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone.

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Claim ~~10~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~2~~, characterized in that the enhancing agent is added at the same time or up to 4 hours after the virus induction.

Claim ~~11~~ 13. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2 10, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim ~~12~~ 8. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~3~~ 7, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim ~~13~~ 12. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10 11, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~2~~ 10, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim ~~15~~ 9. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~3~~ 7, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim ~~16~~ 3. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~4~~ 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 17. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 18. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 3, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 19. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is thymine.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the organic solvent is any of acetone, 2-butanone, 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 4-methyl-2- pentanone, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 2-pyrrolidinone, tetramethylene sulfoxide or ~~and~~ N,N-dimethylacetamide.